

# Midland Area Transportation Study (MATS)

## Technical Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, March 16, 2022

*This meeting was held at the Midland County Services Building 4<sup>th</sup> floor Conference Room.*

### 1. Call to Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 10:02 AM by Russ Inman.

Those who participated were: Russ Inman (Midland County Road Commission), Amy Bidwell (DART), Dan Armentrout (Saginaw County Road Commission), Steve Van Toll (Williams Charter Township), Dave Haag (City of Auburn), Gil Berien (Jerome Township), James Canders (MBS International Airport), Thoralf Brecht (Non-Motorized Representative), John Kelley (MDOT Mt. Pleasant TSC) – via phone, Lindsey Dowswell (MDOT Statewide Planning), Bryan Gillett (MATS).

### 2. Changes to the Agenda

There were no changes to the agenda.

### 3. Approval of February 16, 2022 Minutes

A motion was made by Dan Armentrout and seconded by Brian Stark to approve the minutes of the February 16, 2022 meeting. Motion carried.

### 4. Reports of officers

Amy Bidwell reported: DART has applied for Section 5304 Transit funds to study possible collaboration, coordination, or merging with County Connection of Midland. In addition, scheduled bus purchases are moving forward. Amy also noted that the current shortage of drivers is reducing ridership levels.

Dan Armentrout reported: Grade inspections are taking place for the Freeland Road project, awaiting obligation.

Russ Inman reported: Several projects are currently underway with good early season progress.

John Kelly reported: Funds for the US-10BR project have been internally approved for FY 2025, and entered into JobNet. Work on the US-10BR Eastman Avenue at Wackerly intersection has now been pushed back to FY 2023 while right of way and other issues are finalized, with discussions being held regarding the Shell gas station and the old hotel property. A May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022 public information meeting has been set with location to be decided. Plan review for the M-20 project will begin April 4<sup>th</sup>, and the M-30 bridge over US-10 will include width for the planned NMT trail in the MATS NMT Plan.

## **5. Agency Reports**

Bryan reported on the status of various MATS work tasks:

The MATS Long Range Transportation Plan was approved and adopted by the Policy Committee on March 1, and has been forwarded to MDOT as well as posted on the MATS website for reference. Bound copies will be available in April. In addition, staff have been administering changes to the TIP, continuing the process of developing the FY 2023-2026 TIP report, and begun the new Complete Streets review process. These last two items will be discussed further on today's agenda.

## **6. Unfinished and New Business**

### **A. MATS FY 2023-2026 TIP development**

Bryan elaborated on the work by MATS staff to develop the new FY 2023-2026 TIP report. There are many elements that go into the report, however the first is programming the projects selected, matching with the projected available funding. This has been difficult to pin down due to the fluctuating funding amounts released by MDOT for the various programs over the last few months. It is believed at this time that the latest funding amounts released at the end of February will be the amounts presented in the TIP Report and programmed in JobNet.

Secondly, Bryan presented the preliminary project list for the TIP report, as well as the draft map of urban TIP projects for the document. He requested that committee members, in particular implementing agencies, review the preliminary list and advise of any errors, changes, or incidental modifications needed.

Furthermore, Russ Inman requested that MATS initiate a call for projects for the new Carbon Reduction Program as soon as was possible, and convene a meeting of the project selection committee subsequent to that.

### **B. MATS Complete Street Program**

Bryan explained that the newly approved process for the Complete Streets program had not been implemented yet, due to scheduling conflicts and a lack of time for sufficient review by the Nonmotorized representative. Instead, Bryan laid out a revised timeline that, going forward, would enable the completion of all tasks prior to committee meetings. Tentatively, the Complete Streets zoom meeting would take place one week prior to the Technical Committee meeting, which means that all required information would need to be provided to MATS one week prior to that date. This was agreed to by consensus after subsequent discussion.

### **C. Long Range Planning – MATS LRP Update**

Bryan briefly explained that the MATS Long Range Transportation Plan had been approved, that the resolution of adoption had been signed by Policy Committee Chair Brad Kaye, and

that the complete document was now available on the MATS website. In addition, bound copies would be available for review or distribution in April.

**7. Public Comment**

No public comments were received and no members of the public were present.

**8. Adjournment**

There being no further items for discussion, the March 16, 2022 MATS Technical Committee meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:44 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

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